

To meet the challenges of change in Wisconsin's codes and to respond positively to our unsettled economics, this is the first edition of the *Wisconsin Construction Codes Report*, published by the Safety and Buildings Division of the state Department of Commerce.

The publication will be a combination of the previous *Wisconsin Plumbing Codes Report* and *Wisconsin Building Codes Report*. All people who received either of the two codes reports will receive the new *WCCR*.

S&B needs to concentrate on being

A renewed, refined codes report

by Todd Taylor, Safety and
Buildings Division Publications
Editor, ttaylor@commerce.
state.wi.us, 608-267-3606

efficient and useful in
providing information to
the customers with whom
the division works. About
thirty percent of the
information in the two

previous publications was
necessary duplication because the
messages pertain to both audiences.
Articles in the *WCCR* will be shorter
to save readers time and to get more
directly to the point. The new report
will reflect the intention to provide
crisp, timely information.

There also is a need to respond to
the state's unsettled economics.
Dollars and staff hours will be saved
in producing the new *WCCR*. S&B's
revenue is down. Tax dollars must
be watched even more closely than
ever.

The conserved hours will be used

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New building and fire codes will make a difference

by Jim Quast, S&B Program Manager

Visualize how things have changed since the people of Wisconsin created their first Commercial Building Code in 1914. That almost unbelievable difference is representative of why Wisconsin has adopted new Commercial Building and Fire Prevention Codes. The importance of the new codes may not be extremely visible to everyone on Main Street in our state, however, the new codes do make a difference.

Since 1914, many new

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Hearing on Plumbing Code changes is February 13

A public hearing on proposed changes to Wisconsin's Uniform Plumbing Code, Comm 81-87, will be held on February 13, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in room 3C of the Thompson Commerce Building, 201 West Washington Ave., Madison. The formal announcement is on page 3 of this **WCCR**.

The revisions include requirements for wastewater discharge points, new and revised definitions, requirements for campgrounds, mobile homes, home parks, and health care and related facilities.

Rules on water quality, treatment, and reuse are also being created to allow more

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January 1 change in multi-purpose piping requirements

People **initially** licensed after January 1, 2002 are no longer required to attend a Safety and Buildings Division-approved course prior to being the responsible master plumber or master plumber-restricted appliance for the installation of multipurpose piping systems.

The class attendance has been a transitional way to assure knowledge of the systems for the responsible installers.

The Safety and Buildings Division plumbing exams have been updated and now include questions about multipurpose piping systems.

During the exams, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard NFPA 13D, 1999 edition, will be allowed in the exam rooms as reference material.

It is recommended that if someone plans to take the journeyman, journeyman plumber-restricted appliance, master plumber-restricted appliance, or master plumber exam after January 1, 2002, they consider purchasing NFPA 13D for reference material during the exam.

NFPA 13D can be purchased from NFPA at <http://www.nfpa.org>, or by calling NFPA at 800-344-3555.

Plan Review Scheduling

For plan review scheduling for Plumbing and Buildings, fax scheduling is your best bet; please fax completed first two pages of plan review submittal forms to 877-840-9172. (Information about the project is needed to schedule the plan review.) You can request the review be scheduled in a specific office or you can schedule the first appropriate plan review available statewide.

Plan review for Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems is provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact one of the offices for information.

For info on what scheduling dates are available in each office, see <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-DailyDoc.html>.

State administrative codes and the code update service may be purchased by contacting state Document Sales, 608-266-3358, or 800-362-7253, for credit card purchases. The codes are available free online via the Revisor of Statutes web site: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/>

email technical questions to:

- Commercial buildings, Comm 50-64, 66, 69 bldgtech@commerce.state.wi.us
- Fire protection systems fireprotech@commerce.state.wi.us
- Plumbing, cross connection plbgtech@commerce.state.wi.us
- Private onsite wastewater treatment powttech@commerce.state.wi.us
- Public swimming pools pooltech@commerce.state.wi.us
- Building and plumbings products productech@commerce.state.wi.us
- Licenses, certifications, registrations madisoncred@commerce.state.wi.us
- Manufactured/mobile homes manf-homes@commerce.state.wi.us
- One- and Two-family Dwelling Code udctech@commerce.state.wi.us

On S&B's WebSite, search for an individual credential status and con ed, or view lists of license-holders See page 8

Notice of Public Hearing, Changes Related to the Plumbing Code

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to ss. 101.63 (1) and (2), 101.73 (1) and 145.02 (2), Stats., the Department of Commerce will hold a public hearing on proposed rules relating to Wisconsin Uniform Plumbing Code; Fees; Amusement Rides; and Design and Construction of Public Swimming Pools.

Wednesday, February 13, 2002, 9:30 a.m. at the Thompson Commerce Center, 201 W. Washington Ave., Rm 3C, Madison

Interested persons are invited to appear at the hearings and present comments on the proposed rules. Persons making oral presentations are requested to submit their comments in writing. Persons submitting comments will not receive individual responses. The hearing record on this proposed rulemaking will remain open until February 27, 2002, to permit submittal of written comments from persons who are unable to attend a hearing or who wish to supplement testimony offered at a hearing.

Written comments should be submitted to:
Jean M. MacCubbin, Department of Commerce
Administrative Services Division
P.O. Box 2689
Madison, WI 53701-2689

These hearings are held in accessible facilities. If you have special needs or circumstances that may make communication or accessibility difficult at the hearing, please call (608) 266-8741 or (608) 264-8777 (TTY) at least 10 days prior to the hearing date. Accommodations such as interpreters, English translators, or materials in audio tape format will, to the fullest extent possible, be made available upon request by a person with a disability.

The proposed rules and an analysis of the proposed rules are available on the Internet at the Safety and Buildings Division web site at www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-HomePage.

Copies may also be obtained without cost from Roberta Ward, Department of Commerce, Program Development Bureau, P.O. Box 2689, Madison, WI 53701-2689, email rward@commerce.state.wi.us, telephone 608-266-8741 or 608-264-8777 (TTY). Copies will also be available at the public hearings.

Plumbing code hearing

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plumbing options. For example, for holding tank owners, reuse regulations would allow pumping less frequently. Or, for example, a homeowner with a private well that produces arsenic in excess of the enforcement standard of 10 micrograms per liter could be code compliant by using a reverse osmosis system on the kitchen sink faucet that produces water of Department of Natural Resources drinking water quality.

If you're interested in downloading a copy of the code proposal, it's available on the S&B WebSite, <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-HomePage.html>, or, for a paper copy, contact Roberta Ward, 608-266-8741, rward@commerce.state.wi.us.

If you have comments or questions concerning the draft, contact Lynita Docken, S&B Plumbing Program Manager, 608-785-9349, ldocken@commerce.state.wi.us.

New codes report

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for more development of the S&B Internet WebSite and for more outreach to building owners and the public with information supporting the various S&B programs. For example, outreach is needed in support of testing cross connection devices and to reinforce licensing and permitting systems. In many programs, there can be more focus on maintenance requirements.

February 2002, with the publication of the *WCCR*, is a good time for S&B to shake off cobwebs and try to make the new publication a sharpened "tool."

Upcoming training related to new fire code

“How will NFPA 1 / 101 be applied as Wisconsin’s new fire code” is the title of training to be presented this spring by the Wisconsin State Fire Chief’s Association and the Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association, in cooperation with the National Fire Protection Association.

Comm 14, newly revised as the Wisconsin Fire Prevention Code, adopts NFPA1 for operation, use, and maintenance of public buildings. References to NFPA 101 for operation and use also apply. Design and construction requirements are located in the new Commercial Building Code.

The classes will be Friday, April 5 in Green Bay; Saturday, April 6 in Wausau; Monday, April 8 in Ashland; Tuesday, April 9, in Eau Claire; Friday, May 3 in Milwaukee, Saturday, May 4 in

Madison; Monday, May 6 in Onalaska; and Tuesday, May 7 in Wisconsin Rapids.

There will be a \$10 fee. All who attend will receive complementary code books from NFPA.

For more information, contact Gil Hucek of the WFIA, 920-434-1644. Next month’s WCCR will have a registration form for the classes. The form will also be on the S&B WebSite, on the Fire Safety Program page, <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-FireSafetyProgram.html>.

UDC-Plumbing education

The Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Safety and Buildings Division will hold full-day UDC Plumbing Inspector training sessions in Waukesha on March 12 and in Eau Claire on March 14. A separate flyer for these courses was mailed in February. Interested inspectors should contact the League of Municipalities, 608-267-2386, if they didn’t receive one.

UDC Inspectors will be receiving information from S&B concerning the March UDC Construction/UDC HVAC/UDC Electrical continuing education courses.

Fire Protection: These municipalities are **delegated agents** of the department to perform plan review and inspection of fire detection and suppression systems as prescribed under Comm 50.12(2)(k): City of Appleton; City of Burlington; City of Madison; Village of McFarland.

John Lippitt resigns from S&B fire position

Safety and Buildings Division Fire Safety Program Manager John Lippitt resigned in January.

He has taken a Fire Protection Engineer position with the City of Madison Fire Department.

Field Operations Bureau Director Dan Graham will be the contact person for the fire safety program, 608-266-0056, dgraham@commerce.state.wi.us.

Fire Alarm Education

“Fire Alarm Installation Methods Certification,” March 21-22, 2002, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Brown Deer. Registration deadline is March 8, 2002. There is a fee. The course is for fire and building inspectors, code enforcement officials, installers, electricians, etc., covering NFPA 72 codes and installation. Contact the Wisconsin Burglar and Fire Alarm Association, 414-276-9232.

Division staff take temporary assignments

The Safety and Buildings Division has recently been experiencing expense levels greater than that supported by current revenues. The reduced revenues result from the down turn in the economy.

In order to reduce expenditures to meet the revenue shortfall, and to help avoid staff layoffs, four Program Managers in the Bureau of Program Development have accepted temporary assignments in vacant managerial and supervisory positions in the Environmental and Regulatory Services Division, also a part of the Department of Commerce.

They are Eric Hands, Joe Hertel, Bernice Mattsson, and Jim Quast.

The temporary assignments began January 14 and terminate no later than June 28, 2002.

S&B program managers help lead individual programs with division-wide planning, policy, code, and procedure development. The individual program responsibilities have been temporarily assigned to other program managers.

These are the programs assigned to the four program managers:

Hands: Amusement Rides and Attractions, Explosive Materials, Fire Dept. Safety and Health; Manufacture of Fireworks; Mine Safety; Public Sector Employee Safety; Clean Indoor Air; Passenger Ropeways; Worker Compensation Accident Investigations

Hertel: Electrical & Lighting Systems; Elevators

Mattsson: Energy Efficiency; Rental Unit Energy Efficiency; Gas Systems (Anhydrous Ammonia, Compressed Natural Gas, Liquid Natural Gas, Liquid Petroleum Gas Systems); Boilers; HVAC Systems; Refrigeration Systems

Quast: Multi-Family Dwellings; Soil Erosion Control; Credentials; Code Development for Comm 83

For technical code questions related to the topics above right, you may contact field staff listed on pages 10-11 of this WCCR.

During the temporary assignments, telephone calls to the four program managers may be redirected. For technical code questions related to the topics above right, you may contact program staff listed on pages 10-11 of this WCCR.

Several reminders about plan reviews and code applicability during the transition to a new Commercial Building Code

Revisions - Revisions within the scope of the original project may be submitted prior to plan approval expiration showing compliance with the code in effect at the time of original submittal. Approval of the revision does not extend the expiration date of the approved plans.

Tenant Space Alteration Plans - In the case of a multi-tenant building, the initial and subsequent tenant space alteration plans are subject to the code in effect at the time of submittal of that tenant space plan, not the original building shell.

Code Applicability - The code in effect at the time of valid plan submittal is the code that will be used to review and approve the submittal. For a new building or building addition, valid plan submittal could be a viable building plan submittal, or a footing and foundation plan submittal received in our office on a business day. Note that a preliminary review does not qualify as a submittal that determines code edition applicability.

Get your two-volume set of Comm 61 – 65, Wisconsin's recently adopted new Commercial Building Code, with relevant provisions of the International Code Council model codes!

The new Wisconsin code goes into effect July 1, 2002. There will be Spring 2002 revisions to the new adopted code, to address historic buildings, fair housing, and deal with cross references from other codes.*

Each set of what is called the "Enrolled Code" costs \$200, including shipping and handling. The enrolled code has all the relevant provisions of the International Building Code, International Energy Conservation, International Mechanical Code, and International Fuel Gas Code, without unneeded text such as seismic maps for California, or climate maps for states other than Wisconsin. Be aware you may purchase the Wisconsin Commercial Building Code, without

the model code provisions, from state Document Sales, 800-362-7253. Then, you can also purchase the national version of the model codes from some model code organizations. Costs in that instance may be greater. Some training courses may provide code copies in their fees. Wisconsin administrative codes (but not the model code provisions) are available free online via the Revisor of Statutes' web site: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code>.

Send check for \$200 per set to the "Safety and Buildings Division," Attn: Roberta Ward, PO Box 2689, Madison WI 53701

Do not buy the code through this offer if you are signed up to attend the 2002 Commercial Building code training being offered through the state inspector associations. Copies of the enrolled code will be included with that training tuition fee.

Personal information you provide may be used for secondary purposes [Privacy Law, s. 1504(1)(m)]

How many sets are you ordering? _____ (\$200 x number = check amount _____)

Company or individual name: _____

Shipping street address: _____

Special Instructions?: _____

City, state, zip: _____

Telephone number _____

Fiscal code 8035

*A code revision package is currently being processed by the Department of Commerce to further enhance the adopted Commercial Building Code, and to change, in other codes, cross references to the building code. The revisions are expected to be adopted and in place when the new code goes into effect July 1, 2000. The revisions are not in the Enrolled Code at this point. The draft revisions are available on the S&B WebSite, <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-HomePage.html>, or from Roberta Ward, 608-266-8741, rward@commerce.state.wi.us.

POWTS Education

17th annual On-Site Waste Management Teleconference: Thursday, March 21, 2002, 8:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. at Wisconsin county Extension ETN sites. This audio teleconference provides a current update on research projects, an announcement of educational offerings, and discussion time for rules and regulations. 1.5 continuing education credit hours for JP, JPRS, MP, MPRS, PInspect, CST. Fee \$10.

POWTS Maintenance sessions: Tuesday, April 23 and Thursday, April 25, 2002. Arlington UW Research Station, a.m. - Pretreatment/Treatment Systems (classroom), p.m. - Evaluation and Maintenance (classroom and field, includes field tests), 3 credit hours per session for PMaintain, PInspect, CST, JP, JPRS, MP, MPRS. This is a POWTS Maintainer qualifying course. Fee \$70.

For more information on either session, contact Jim Peterson, UW Environmental Resources Center, 608 262-3799; jopeters@facstaff.wisc.edu.

No new UDC commentary

Since there has been no substantive changes in the Uniform Dwelling Code since the code most recently became effective, April 1, 2001, and due to the budget crunch, there will not be a new 2002 edition of the Uniform Dwelling Code and Commentary.

When someone orders the UDC Code and Commentary in 2002, they will get the 2001 edition.

It is anticipated that the next UDC code change considerations will occur in 2003. If there are revisions at that time, a new code and commentary document could be issued.

Comments and questions can be directed to Larry Swaziek, One- and Two-Family Dwelling Code Program Manager, 608-267-7701, Lswaziek@commerce.state.wi.us.

UDC Inspectors will be receiving information from S&B concerning the March UDC Construction/UDC HVAC/UDC Electrical continuing education courses.

UW-Small Scale Waste Management Project Winter Educational Sessions

February 2002 - Arlington, Tomahawk, Rice Lake, Fond du Lac

For more information, contact Jim Peterson, UW Environmental Resources Center;

608-262-3799; jopeters@facstaff.wisc.edu

<http://www.wisc.edu/sswmp/edu.htm>

---Linking Linear Loading Rate to Soil Morphology - E. Jerry Tyler

---Drip Distribution Design, Installation and Maintenance - Jim Converse

---Matching Soil Science, Code Requirements and Reality - E. Jerry Tyler

---Mound/At-Grade System Design with Pressure Distribution - Jim Converse

3 continuing education credit hours for CST, MP, MPRS, JP, JPRS, POWTS M, POWTS I

On S&B's WebSite, search for an individual credential status, combined, or view lists

You can check the status and continuing education credit hours of your license, certification, or registration. <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-CredentialStatusCheck.html>. Entering the customer number from your credential card (above your name on card) will provide a readout of some basic information from the S&B computer database. Search results appear at the bottom of the search page.

The new service includes a Combination Search feature allowing searches for groups of credential-holders by type and zip code, with a maximum number of 500 people. (Lists of categories with more than 500 people are available on the site, <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-CredList.html>.) A search does not provide address or telephone contact information for individuals, however, business address information may be available.

Special Instructions

Selecting underlined individual or business

March 30 is the end of the continuing education cycle for S&B credentials expiring June 30, 2002.

S&B WebSite:
www.commerce.state.wi.us/sb

names among search results will provide a view of more detail, if available.

Combination search: When doing the combination search, you should definitely choose a "credential type", a "credential status," and, if possible, enter a zip code. Limit the parameters of the search as much as you can.

Continuing education information will not be in the computer database immediately after the class occurs. Class instructors need to send the information to S&B and the information needs to be keyed into the database. This process may take two to four weeks.

"Comm 5, Licenses, Certifications, and Registrations" is the state code governing credentials administered by the Safety and Buildings Division, and provides definitions of the categories, <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-DivCodesListing2002.html>.

Contact the Safety and Buildings Division Credential Unit, madisoncred@commerce.state.wi.us, 608-261-8500, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

BOCA offers code courses

Building Officials and Code Administrators International (BOCA) is offering courses in Wisconsin and northern Illinois this spring related to the International Codes, provisions of which are adopted in the new Wisconsin Commercial Building Code, effective July 1, 2002.

Among the courses are "Architects Guide to the International Building Code," "Performing Nonstructural Plan Reviews," "Overview(s) 2000 International Fuel Gas Code/ 2000 International Mechanical Code/ 2000 International Energy Conservation Code," and "High-Piled Combustible Storage."

For information, call 800-214-4321, ext. 319, or visit their web site, www.bocai.org/hire.asp.

New building and fire codes will make a difference

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construction products have enhanced safety and building system efficiency. Also since 1914, knowledge of how things in the world physically function has expanded greatly. We learned that some of these new products, and old ones, pose risks and dangers to our well being. The physical environment that we design and construct for ourselves is no exception to the cycle of “progress” and “risk”.

The recent adoption of national model code provisions as part of Wisconsin Commercial Building Codes, effective July 1, 2002, is intended to fit into the onward cycle of changes, to meet safety expectations and desire for improvement.

The adopted national models, NFPA1, the

Copies are available on the state Revisor of Statutes' site of Comm 50-64, the Commercial Building Code in effect until July 1, and Comm 61-65, the code effective on that date, <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/comm/comm050.html>

Fire Prevention Code, the International Building Code, the International Energy Conservation Code, the International Mechanical Code, and the International Fuel Gas Code, have all been developed and written with a great deal of collective national insight to take us forward in terms of safety and efficiency.

For example, if one were to study the current Wisconsin building code requirements for assembly halls under Comm 55, and compare them to the requirements in the first building code, one would realize that some things haven't changed over the decades. This isn't necessarily bad, and hasn't resulted in assembly buildings that comply with the code minimums being

POWTS Intent to Monitor reminder

The next soil saturation determination period (groundwater monitoring season) is fast approaching.

Comm 83.60(3)(b)1 says: “The property owner, or his or her agent, shall notify the governmental unit and the department of the intent to conduct a soil saturation determination at least 15 business days prior to installing any groundwater elevation observation pipe.”

Please notify the county in which the groundwater elevation observation pipes will be installed and notify the S&B wastewater specialist in whose district the county is located. If you are not sure which wastewater specialist to contact, ask county officials, or check our website, <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-PowtsWastewaterSpecialistsMap.html>.

If you have any questions about this code provision, please feel free to contact any wastewater specialist, see page 10.

dangerous. What it does mean is that Wisconsin's code has not keep pace with the knowledge gained over years concerning a variety of matters such as potential material hazards, the behavior of fire, and the reaction of people while exiting.

The information in our new codes addresses in greater depth and detail the new construction systems risks and dangers, as well as provides efficient solutions for the design, construction, and use of commercial buildings.

Editor's note: Jim Quast has taken a temporary assignment with another division of the Department of Commerce. See page 5. For comments or questions on the new Commercial Building Code, contact Henry Kosarzycki, S&B Agent Monitor, 262-548-8615, hkosarzycki@commerce.state.wi.us.

Safety and Buildings Offices

Green Bay Office
2331 San Luis Pl #150
Green Bay WI 54304
920-492-5601
Fax 920-492-5604
greenbaysch@commerce.state.wi.us

Hayward Office
10541N Ranch Rd.
Hayward WI 54843
715-634-4870
Fax 715-634-5150
haywardsch@commerce.state.wi.us

La Crosse Office
4003 North Kinney
Coulee Road
LaCrosse WI 54601
608-785-9334
Fax 608-785-9330
lacrossesch@commerce.state.wi.us

Madison Office
201 W Washington Ave
PO 2658
Madison WI 53701
608-266-3151
Fax 608-267-9566
madisonsch@commerce.state.wi.us

Shawano Office
1340 E Green Bay St #300
Shawano WI 54166
715-524-3626
Fax 715-524-3633
shawanosch@commerce.state.wi.us

Waukesha Office
401 Pilot Ct # C
Waukesha WI 53188
262-548-8600
Fax 262-548-8614
waukeshasch@commerce.state.wi.us

Elevator Inspectors

David Holmes Eau Claire 715-828-5901
Kenton Johnson Mount Horeb 608-437-4093
Jim Kreuzer Tomah 608-374-2430
Timothy Marty Appleton 920-428-9422
James Pacala Woodruff 715-296-2906
George Poblocki Amherst 715-345-5277
Roger Robbins De Pere 920-366-2470
Jerry Rowell Argyle 608-543-3414
Ted Stinson Waukesha 414-852-3627
Frank Wozniak Waukesha 414-315-8102
Rick Merkle, Superv. Madison 608-266-3037

Plumbing Products Reviewers

Mike Beckwith Madison 608-266-6742
Lee Finley Madison 608-261-0450
Glen Schlueter Madison 608-267-1401

POWTS Wastewater Specialists

Ross Fugill Shawano 715-524-3629
Leroy Jansky Chippewa Falls 715-726-2544
Matthew Janzen Stevens Point 715-345-5336
Carl Lippert Hayward 715-634-3484
Karl Schultz Oshkosh 920-424-3311
Dennis Sorenson La Crosse 608-785-9336
Duane Steiner West Baraboo 608-355-3159
Allen Wendorf Madison 608-235-0595

Public Swimming Pool Reviewer

Glen Jones Madison 608-267-5265

Electrical Consultants

Monte Ewing Madison 608-225-3416
Tom Garvey Milwaukee 414-852-3696
Raymond Weber Wis. Rapids 715-421-2610
Dan Meneguín, Superv. . Madison 608-264-7624

Plumbing Consultants

Tom Braun Stevens Point 715-340-5387
Don Hough Hayward 715-634-4804
Tim Joyce Madison 608-235-0557
Don Oremus Pelican Lake 715-584-2007
Robert Samuels Waukesha 262-424-3373
Jim Wehinger Friendship 608-339-7430
Jim Zickert Eldorado 920-948-7336

Plumbing Plan Reviewers

Herman Delfosse La Crosse 608-789-5535
Tom Devereaux Hayward 715-634-3026
Wes Grube Green Bay 920-492-5613
Chester Kintop Waukesha 262-548-8634
Dan Kraft Madison 608-266-8075
Ken Pertzborn Madison 608-267-2242
Curt Wendorff Shawano 715-526-9056

POWTS Plan Reviewers

Charles Bratz La Crosse 608-789-7893
Tom Devereaux Hayward 715-634-3026
Wes Grube Green Bay 920-492-5613
Robert Kanter Madison 608-261-7735
Julia Lewis-Osborne Waukesha 262-548-8638
Pete Pagel Madison 608-266-2889
Tom Perkins Waukesha 262-521-5064
Pat Shandorf Hayward 715-634-7810
Jerry Swim La Crosse 608-785-9348
Keith Wilkinson Shawano 715-524-3630

Boiler Inspectors

Duane Leetch Cornell 715-239-6009
James Markiewicz Appleton 920-428-9423
Steve Seibel Fond Du Lac 920-929-7513
Terry Waldbillig Waukesha 414-303-8575
Dean Yourchuck, Jr Muscoda 608-929-4578
Rick Merkle, Superv. Madison 608-266-3037

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Sample S&B email address:
dstilen@commerce.state.wi.us

Specialty Telephone Contacts

Barrier Free Access	Donna Stilen	262-548-8609
Codes Sales		800-362-7253
Credentialing		608-261-8500
Elevators	Brian Rausch	262-521-5444
Heating and Ventilation	Randy Dahmen	608-266-3162
Hospitals & Nursing Homes, DHFS		608-266-3878
Industrial Hygienists	Susen Trail	920-492-5601
.....	Tom Pritchett	608-576-4123
Lighting	Randy Dahmen	608-266-3162
Manufactured Dwellings	Gary Ekes	608-355-0108
Mobile/Manufactured Homes		608-264-9597
Plan Review Status	S&B offices listed on page 10	
Refrigeration	Mike Verhagen	262-548-8617
Structural Steel Welding	Mike Verhagen	262-548-8617
Swimming Pool Review	Glen Jones	608-267-5265
Uniform Dwelling Code	Leroy Stublaski	608-267-5113
Rental Weatherization		608-261-8462
Teletypewriter (TTY)		608-264-8777

Public Sector Occupational Safety Inspectors

Scott Amacher	Cameron	715-828-5912
Terrence Clark	Stevens Point	715-345-5342
Tomothy Condon	Waukesha	414-852-3660
Manuel Juarez, Jr.	Orfordville	608-879-2764
Vernon Lemke	Green Bay	920-492-5615
Shirley Noltemeyer	Waunakee	608-235-0566
David Vriezen, Superv. .	Madison	608-261-2503

Fire Safety Consultants

John Andersen	Chippewa Falls	715-726-2556
Dave Bruflat	Couderay	715-296-6674
Terry Nolen	Verona	608-845-5375
Dan Meneguini, Superv. .	Madison	608-264-7624

Fire Protection Systems

Waukesha	Keith Glaunert	262-548-8604
Madison	Bill Sullivan	608-266-9643



Commercial Building Inspectors

Leonard Alexander	Reedsburg	608-524-3374
John Anderson	Clintonville	715-823-2014
David Bibeau	Antigo	715-627-7329
Teresa Black	Hayward	715-634-8114
Nicholas Charles	La Crosse	608-789-5657
John Dahl	Menomonie	715-232-6600
Jane Drager	Combined Locks	920-366-2961
Steven Gothard	Cottage Grove	608-235-0568
Emil Jensen	Green Bay	920-822-2915
Chris Luster	Prairie du Chien	608-326-6779
Charlotte Martin	Edgerton	608-884-4168
John Nygard	Green Bay	920-434-7192
Peter Ochs	Fond Du Lac	920-929-3167
Sam Solberg	Stevens Point	715-345-5226
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